

HARTFORD – Congressman John Larson (CT-01) and Judith Stein of the Center for Medicare Advocacy met with seniors in Wethersfield and Manchester today to discuss the proposed 2012 Republican budget, which will end Medicare and drastically weaken Medicaid and Social Security.

“Americans all agree that we need to cut the deficit, but we also expect a shared sacrifice to get us there,” Congressman Larson said. “The Republican plan balances the budget on the backs of seniors, students and the less fortunate. This proposal offers a clear choice for Americans: do we stand with seniors who’ve spent their entire lives paying into Medicare and Social Security or do we stand with Republicans who’d rather provide more tax breaks to millionaires and companies that ship American jobs overseas? Under the Republican plan, there is nothing shared and nothing fair.”

The Republican Budget, pushed through the House last week without a single Democratic vote, would make significant cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security causing seniors and working families to pay higher costs for less service while millionaires and corporations receive larger tax breaks.

Recently over 470 groups including AARP, National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, National Council on Aging and Leadership Council of Aging Organizations wrote to Congress in opposition of the Republican plan.

Beginning with a stop at the Deane-Webb House in Wethersfield, Larson and Stein explained the Republican proposal and took questions from local seniors. Following the Deane-Webb House visit, Congressman Larson went on to the Manchester Senior Center.

“I am delighted to join Congressman Larson in his efforts to protect Medicare while pursuing real savings for taxpayers and the federal budget,” Stein said. “To do this we need to support the Congressman in his efforts to preserve Health Care Reform and to reject proposals to eliminate Medicare and replace it with a voucher system.”

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